

CLAIMS:

1. A rare-earth oxide thermal spray coated article comprising:

5 a substrate and

a coating layer formed by thermally spraying a rare-earth oxide thermal spraying powder onto a surface of the substrate,

10 said coating layer being of a gray or black color having, in the L*a*b* color space, an L* value of up to 50, an a* value of -3.0 to +3.0, and a b* value of -3.0 to +3.0.

2. The article of claim 1 wherein the coating layer contains carbon, titanium or molybdenum.

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3. The article of claim 1 wherein the coating layer has a carbon content of 0.1 to 2% by weight or a titanium or molybdenum content of 1 to 1000 ppm.

20 4. A rare-earth oxide powder for thermal spraying, which powder is of a gray or black color having, in the L*a*b* color space, an L* value of up to 50, an a* value of -3.0 to +3.0 and a b* value of -3.0 to +3.0.